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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Noriaki ABE et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3621**

Serial No.: **10/051,048**



Examiner: **John W. Hayes**

Filed: **January 22, 2002**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **1723**

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING SECONDHAND ARTICLE  
INFORMATION**

Customer No. **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: **January 21, 2004**

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached, along with a copy of a European Search Report.

No fee is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

**RECEIVED**  
**JAN 23 2004**  
**GROUP 3600**

By: **Noriaki ABE, et al.**

Serial No. **10/051,048**

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

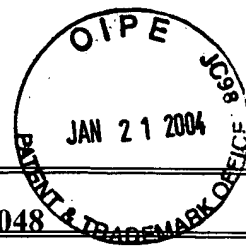
**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Lau", is written over the printed name.

Michael N Lau  
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MNL/meu

Enclosures: PTO-1449  
References (6 )  
European Search Report



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION PTO-1449	Attv. Docket No. <b>020011</b>	Serial No. <b>10/051,048</b>
	Applicant(s): <b>Noriaki ABE et al.</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>January 22, 2002</b>	Group Art Unit: <b>3621</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exam. Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	3,754,122	Dinapoli et al.	8/21/73			
	5,581,464	Woll et al.	12/3/96			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
2000-207452	7/28/00	Japan	Yes-Abstract
EP 1 172 743 A1	1/16/02	Europe	
0 575 117 A2	12/22/93	Europe	
WO 96/16387 for EP 0 793 838	5/30/96	WIPO	

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

	Search Report dated April 23, 2003.	<b>RECEIVED</b> JAN 23 2004 <b>GROUP 3600</b>
Examiner	Date Considered	